

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 174868
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY AF:SLOW
APPROVED BY P:PHABIB
AF:RMOOSE
NSC
AF/S:DPETTERSON
S/P:TLAKE
S/S-O:SGOLDSMITH

-----087003 262219Z /62

P 262140Z JUL 77 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY GABORONE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 174868

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP, PFOR, RH

SUBJECT: UK-US RHODESIAN INITIATIVE

1. WITH EXCEPTION OF PARAS 5 AND 6 THIS TELEGRAM IS
FOR INFO ONLY AND IS INTENDED TO PROVIDE BACKGROUND;
NONE OF THE INFORMATION IN IT SHOULD BE DISCUSSED OUT-
SIDE OFFICIAL US COMMUNITY AT THIS STAGE OR UNTIL
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FURTHER NOTICE.

2. AS POSTS WILL HAVE BEEN SEEN FROM THE WIRELESS FILE AND
PRESS REPORTING, FOREIGN SECRETARY OWEN HELD DISCUSSIONS
IN WASHINGTON ON SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, JULY 23 AND 24.
HE MET WITH THE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY VANCE FOR
DETAILED TALKS WHICH WERE LARGELY DEVOTED TO RHODESIA.

3. THE FOLLOWING CONCLUSIONS EMERGED FROM THE TALKS:

-- WE WILL MOVE AHEAD VIGOROUSLY WITH THE UK-US INITIATIVE BEGUN IN APRIL;

-- PRESIDENT CARTER HAS DIRECT AND PERSONAL INTEREST IN US SUPPORT FOR BRITISH EFFORTS AT FINDING AN EARLY SOLUTION;

--WE INTEND TO DETERMINE THE OUTLINES OF A SOUND AND FAIR PROPOSAL, BASED ON MAJORITY RULE, ONE MAN, ONE VOTE, TO BE PUT TO THE PARTIES AND THE WORLD AT LARGE, PROBABLY THROUGH THE UN, AND WHICH COULD STAND ON ITS MERITS;

-- SUCH PRESENTATION OF THE PROPOSAL IS NOT DEPENDENT ON ITS ACCEPTANCE BY ANY OF THE PARTIES;

-- THE US AND BRITAIN ARE PREPARED TO TAKE THE FIRM STEPS NECESSARY TO SEE THAT THE INITIATIVE IS ACCEPTED BY SMITH;

-- THE ELECTION CURRENTLY UNDER WAY IN RHODESIA IS A MATTER OF CONCERN TO SMITH AND A SMALL PERCENTAGE OF RHODESIAN POPULATION ONLY; IT DOES NOT AFFECT THE FORMULATION OF THE PROPOSAL NOR THE URGENCY OF ITS
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IMPLEMENTATION.

4. IN CARRYING OUT THE INITIATIVE FURTHER TALKS WILL BE REQUIRED DURING THE MONTH OF AUGUST WITH THE SOUTH AFRICANS, FRONT LINE LEADERS, NIGERIANS AND NATIONALISTS.

5. IN THE MEANTIME, THE FOLLOWING PRESS GUIDANCE MAY BE HELPFUL TO YOU IN DISCUSSIONS ON THIS SUBJECT:

-- THE UNITED STATES AND BRITAIN REMAIN OF THE VIEW THAT A NEGOTIATED SOLUTION TO THE RHODESIAN PROBLEM IS DESIRABLE AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE TIME;

-- THE TWO GOVERNMENTS ARE CONVINCED THAT A FAIR AND SOUND SETTLEMENT SHOULD CONTAIN A PROPOSAL FOR AN INDEPENDENCE CONSTITUTION, A TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT CHARGED WITH ADMINISTERING A FREE AND OPEN ELECTION TO SELECT THE GOVERNMENT OF AN INDEPENDENT NATION, AND A FUND WHICH ASSISTS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE INDEPENDENT COUNTRY AND SUPPORTS THE PROVISIONS OF THE SETTLEMENT;

-- THEY BELIEVE THAT SUCH A SETTLEMENT IS ATTAINABLE

IN A RELATIVELY SHORT PERIOD OF TIME AND THEY INTEND
TO PROCEED ACCORDINGLY IN THE CLOSEST CONSULTATION
WITH THE PARTIES INVOLVED.

6. IF ASKED ABOUT UN INVOLVEMENT OR PEACEKEEPING FORCE,
CONFIRM THAT THIS IS ONE OPTION WE ARE CONSIDERING. IT
IS PREMATURE TO DISCUSS DETAILS, HOWEVER. VANCE

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APPROVED BY S/S-O:SGOLDSMITH
-----089722 270307Z /62
P 270244Z JUL 77 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO WHITE HOUSE PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 174868

NODIS
FOR DR. BRZEZINSKI ONLY

FOL RPT STATE 174868 ACTION LONDON LUSAKA DAR ES SALAAM
PRETORIA MAPUTO GABORONE LAGOS 26 JUL 77 QUOTE

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APPROVED BY:D:DABRIZILL
S/S-O:JTHYDEN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 174868

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WELLINGTON FOR CHRISTOPHER ONLY FM BRIZILL

USUN FOR AMBASSADORS YOUNG,LEONARD AND MCHENRY

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 174868 ACTION WHITE HOUSE DATED JUL 27:

QTE:CONFIDENTIAL STATE 174868

NODIS
FOR DR. BRZEZINSKI ONLY

FOL RPT STATE 174868 ACTION LONDON LUSAKA DAR ES SALAAM
PRETORIA MAPUTO GABORONE LAGOS 26 JUL 77 QUOTE

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 26-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: SLOW
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: 1
Expiration:
Film Number: n/a
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Handling Restrictions:
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Original Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1743130
Secure: LOCK1
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UK-US RHODESIAN INITIATIVE
TAGS: PDIP, PFOR, PGOV, RH, UK, US
To: LONDON LUSAKA MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c8188663-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
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